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Lutheran ... Men

Published monthly at Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, by
The Brotherhood of The United Lutheran Church in America

All the Men of the Lutheran Church for the Whole Task of the Church

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MARCH
1947

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Volume XXVIII
Number Three

And Christ Is Crucified Anew!

Not only once and long ago,
There on Golgotha's rugged side,
Has Christ, the Lord been crucified
Because He loved a lost world so.
But hourly, souls sin-satisfied
Mock His great love, flout His commands.
And drive nails deep into His hands,
And thrust the spear within His side.

John Richard Moreland.

LUTHERAN MEN...

MARCH

Vol. XXVIII Issue No. 3

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Rev. Amos John Traver, D.D., Editor
954 Woodlawn Ave., Springfield, Ohio

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Earle W. Bader, Executive Secretary
62 E. Garrison St., Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

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Our Cover Picture

Can you identify the artist? So far we have been unable to discover him. It is a very modern and very frank picture. Each character is worthy of study. The careless throng passes by without concern for the thorn-crowned Christ. Each one is following his own concerns. Only one gives a passing glance of horror as she happens to see Him. All classes and occupations are present. "Is it nothing to you?"

Lent
is a glorious season in the Lutheran Church year. There is a loyalty to the serviees of the church that delights the pastor's heart. His schedule is heavy and when the season is over, he is tired, but happy. The emphasis during Lent is on Jesus Christ, the crucified. He does not merely preach the cross. He is not proclaiming a heroic act of self-sacrifice on the part of Jesus. It is the Christ who saves, not the cross. It is the crucified Christ who redeems us from our sins. He atones for us and brings us back into reconciliation with the just and merciful God. The mystery of it all is beyond our reason. It is "foolishness" and a "stumbling-block" to all worldly wisdom. But faith accepts the offered grace and we are saved. This is the Lenten message. There is good reason for increased loyalty during Lent. Somehow it should be conserved during the whole year.

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The fellow who is always slapping you on the back does this to help you swallow all he tells you.

●

Grievous loss
has come recently to the lay leadership of our church in the deaths of Otto G. Brandenberger of Meriden, Conn., George W. Reuther of Jersey City, N. J. and Heiby Ungerer of Rochester, N. Y. Brother Brandenberger was a charter member of the New England Conference Brotherhood and one of its first presidents. Brother Reuther was a charter member of his own church, Our Saviour, founded 47 years ago; a former president of The Lutheran Society; and a member of the executive board of the N. Y. Synod. Brother Ungerer was active in every Lutheran movement in his home church, Reformation, where he taught a Sunday School class for over thirty years; in his synod, where he served in almost every important lay position; in the ULC Brotherhood, where he was formerly a member of the executive committee; in Lutheran Men of America, which he helped to found; and as a trustee of Philadelphia Seminary. These three brothers were often delegates to ULC conventions and will be missed wherever Lutheran men meet.

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A man never shows his own character so plainly as by the way he portrays another's. —*Richter*

The Editor's Personal Paragraphs

The Season Lent
Luke 10: 38-42

On all but forty days of Lent,
We strive so hard on business bent,
We lose our touch with heavenly things,
And bear the load that worry brings.

But during Lent, His words are read:
"You cannot live alone by bread,
So lay aside your load of care,
You need one thing for heaven's stair."

So during all the Lenten days,
Come, rest awhile from Martha's ways,
And sit at Jesus' feet, so dear,
Where words of wisdom you shall hear.

Watch with Him in the garden there,
Talking with God in deepest prayer.
Think on these things with all your heart,
As Mary, chooses the better part.

—WILLIAM S. AVERY

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Collegiate Reformed Church of St. Nicholas
will remain on its valuable site on Fifth Avenue, New York City. A $4,000,000 offer was too tasty bait for some of the business men, managing the group of Reformed Churches bound together as one corporation called "Collegiate." Led by the pastor, Dr. Joseph R. Sizoo, the vestry of the church refused to accept the decision to sell by the "Collegiate" board. They are to be commended for their courage. We Protestants have been too ready to take our churches off the costly sites on the prominent streets of our cities.

Even though you are on the right track, you will be run over if you just sit there.—Western Recorder.

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Harry B. Fogle,
long a leader in Maryland Brotherhood circles, is another casualty among our Lutheran churchmen. He was devoted to his church. He loved his Bible and was a Sunday School teacher for many years. In his home church, his synod and in the ULC his voice was always lifted for the faith that was in him. I will miss his cheery, encouraging letters as editor of LUTHERAN MEN. I will also miss the personal friendship that has grown with the years. To those in his bereaved home Lutheran men offer sympathy and comfort. He is safe with the Saviour whom he loved and served.

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An employee, guiding a guest through a newspaper plant, was explaining the city-room layout.

"On this side are the reporters. They write, but can't spell. On that side are the copyreaders. They spell, but can't write."—Western Recorder.

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Merited recognition
was given Treasurer Fred S. Telleen, by the National Lutheran Council at its recent Detroit meeting. Beautifully engrossed resolutions were presented to him by the president, Dr. R. E. Tulloss. Since his retirement as vice-president of Chase National Bank, he has been giving full time to the work of his church. His only compensation is the joy of Christian service. He holds many positions of trust in the church and comes to his office in the Church House just as regularly as he went to his business office before retirement. Following his example Heiby Ungerer, who had retired recently, was devoting himself to the work of the Board of American Missions. It is tragic that he could not have had a few years, at least, in the work that he loved. Let those who dread retirement learn from these faithful laymen.

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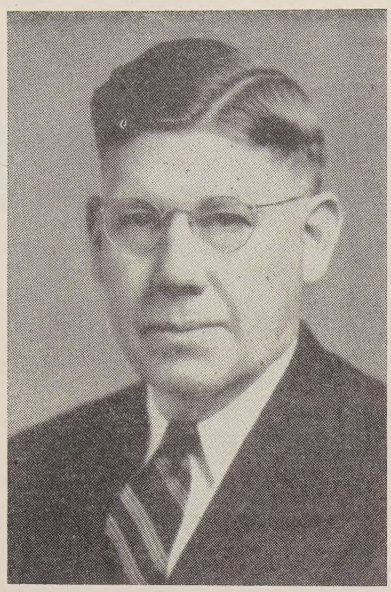
"I've found the umbrella you missed, Professor. I found it at the lost property office."

"Thank you, thank you. But how strange! I never went there."—Christian Observer



Brother of the Month

Mr. Mosling is president of the Brotherhood of the Synod of the Northwest. He is from St. John's Lutheran Church, Rev. Edward R. Wicklund, pastor, Oskosh, Wisconsin. He was superintendent of the Sunday School for some years, president of the Past Councilmen's Association, past-president of the Brotherhood, chairman of the L.W.A. appeal, and active in every forward movement of his church.

He was a delegate to the ULCA conventions at Minneapolis and Cleveland and to the ULCA Brotherhood conventions as well. He has backed the Boy Scouts in his own church and in the general Lutheran Scout movement. He is also a member of the Laymen's Movement.

Since 1917 he has been a successful manufacturer of four-wheel-drive trucks. His faith in the principle of this type of drive has never wavered. His company the Oshkosh Motor Truck, Inc., supplied thousands of trucks for the war effort. Many of them were equipped with rotary plows for snow removal on air ports etc. These trucks also played an important part in the construction of the Alcan Highway.

In 1917 he married Helena Louisa Rohloff and they have seven children. The character of their home life is witnessed by the fact that one son, Rev. Donald P. Mosling, is a missionary at Rajahmundry, India.

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Faith makes all things possible, and love makes them easy. Faith makes the Christian, but love proves him.—The Watchword.

The National Lutheran Council met in Detroit last January. It was my first experience as a counsellor. The N.L.C. is concerned with big business, just now the biggest being the $10,000,000 L.W.A. Appeal. It was a joy to learn that the Appeal is over 60% completed and that the ULC also has gone well over the half way mark. $4,000,000 was set for the 1948 Appeal, subject, of course, to the action of the eight general bodies. The N.L.C. is not a super-synod but the medium of cooperation through which the constituent bodies are performing ever greater tasks. Dr. R. E. Tulloss, the president, was re-elected as were the rest of the officers. It required a master parliamentarian like Dr. Tulloss to direct a convention where eight general presidents are delegates. The friendly sparring of parliamentarians added spice to the sessions. The constitution under which we are working is new and each decision was important to the future of Lutheran cooperation. Reports and actions covered much territory. The Service Commission is on its way to greatly reduced work though it must be continued for some time. There are still many Lutherans in service. The new student work has a large staff and great plans for better housing on college campuses as well as better student service. $500,000 is recommended, to be raised in three years and invested in Lutheran student centers. Welfare is one of the older interests of the N.L.C. and has already done miracles in unifying and improving Lutheran inner mission and welfare agencies. L.W.A. is administering the gifts of the churches with justice and mercy. Dr. Empie has just returned from Europe and after he spoke it was hard to keep the figures down to any realistic line, for there is need for many times the $10,000,000 we are raising. American Missions is another more recent activity. It is already lessening competition in missions between the eight bodies. It is also serving many new industrial communties. Public Relations, a division where I have been serving for some time, maintains information service to all kinds of news agencies. At this convention the N.L.C. became the American Section of the Lutheran World Federation. There is room here for no extended account of the vast services rendered by the N.L.C. Certainly it is increasingly powerful as a unifying influence in the Church.

Bragging may not get you anywhere, says a wise guy, yet the fisherman with a fine string of 'em doesn't go up the alley on his way home.—Christian Observer

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President R. E. Tuloss received extensive newspaper quotation from his address at the opening of the National Lutheran Council Convention. Practically the entire address appeared in the N. Y. Times. Here are three stirring paragraphs:

"Let us not shut our eyes to the fact that the greatest conflict that mankind has ever known is spreading throughout the world," he said. "Two diametrically opposing views are fighting for the allegiance of man—Communism and Christianity. Central Europe is the first battleground. If we lose the battle there, our chances for winning elsewhere, including our own land, will be tragically diminished.

"Involved are both our love for democracy and our Christian loyalty. A communistic nation was one of our associates in World War II. Let no one think that she is our associate in seeking to build the Kingdom of God. Communism is not merely an economic program. It is a total philosophy of life, atheistic, utterly opposed to the Christian view, and determinedly set to destroy the Church.

"Under the guise of seeking men's freedom, Communism imposes a slavery of mind and spirit which is abhorrent to liberty-loving men. With a fanactical zeal, it propagates its false theories everywhere. Any pretended limitation of its fields of operation to certain lands is a bald misrepresentation for temporary ends, intended to blind us to the real purpose of gaining its ends among all peoples. The unmistakable aim is a world domination of Marxism."

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Teacher: "Billy, can you tell me where the Red Sea is?"

Billy: "On the third line of my report card."—Alabama Christian Advocate.

●

Christ or Confusion is the title of the 1947 volume of Lenten sermons by pastors of the ULCA. We have learned to look forward to this Muhlenberg Press offering each year. This year, due to his retirement, Dr. Strodach has been succeeded by H. Torrey Walker as editor. The writers have been well selected, representing many different sections of the

ULC and the training of various seminaries. Generally they have not been widely known through published writings. After reading their sermons one wonders why. Most pastors need the stimulus of an invitation to write. Otherwise they are too busy or too modest to submit manuscripts. Such a volume serves this good purpose. The sermons are Biblical, lightened by uniformly good illustrations and arrive at conclusions that demand something of the reader. If there is any general criticism, it would be that clearer outlines would make some of these sermons more effective. A good pattern is given in Dr. Scherer's sermon, "From Tyranny to Freedom." In fact, as could be expected, this sermon is a pattern for good preaching. It is anchored in the Bible, clearly outlined, draws on his wide familiarity with literature and life and is expressed in vivid, understandable English. The volume gains title from Dr. Stover's sermon. This sermon reveals the secret of his power in its simple Christ-centered message. Space will not permit a sermon by sermon analysis but for laymen as well as pastors this is a "must" book. It will cost you $2.

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Flattery won't hurt you as long as your old hat still fits.

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Louis A. Wilkie
of North Towanda, N. Y. has just begun his 42nd year of perfect attendance at Sunday School. He is a member of Grace Lutheran Church and has just retired from the superintendency of the Sunday School after 22 years service. Modestly he notes that he lives right across the street from his church, but those who know Louis are sure that he would have been just as faithful if he had lived on the other side of town. He was one of the founders of his church, indeed, it was begun in a room over his hardware store 40 years ago. The role of important posts he has held in church life is too long to list here. I met him first in Luther League work many years ago. We learned then that the church could always count on Louis. His devotion was always centered on Christ and His Kingdom. May he have many more years of fruitful service!

●

Yes, boys will be boys, but it is more important to remember that boys will be men.—Religious Telescope

Pastor Claire Hayner
has recently gone to British Guiana from a successful pastorate in Western Pennsylvania. The missionary spirit is in his veins. In the editor's first parish, Claire was a Sunday School lad, his parents and grandparents all sang in the choirs. He was tireless in Luther League work and his church was in the very center of his interest. After graduating from Wittenberg College and Hamma Divinity School he went to India. There ill health defeated his purpose to make missionary service his life work. Then followed many years of pastoral service, in which he injected the spirit of missions into his parishes. Now he has been called again into missionary service and is giving his fine talents and long experience to the fast growing work in British Guiana. Our prayers go with Pastor and Mrs. Hayner and our support will back their heroic task.

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When a man loses God as center, he becomes literally eccentric.—The Lutheran

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Augustana Synod
Board of Home Missions has sent some stirring resolutions to its governing body. It estimates that 25 to 35 percent of the home mission funds of the general bodies of the National Lutheran Council is spent on duplicated and overlapping missionary effort. It calls this "a sinful waste of manpower." As a remedy it offers to pool its home mission funds with those of the rest of the general bodies. Already a committee is studying this competition in effort and the Board suggests like committees from the other general bodies to share in the study. These resolutions should receive immediate attention.

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Experience is what you get while you're looking for something else.

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Several pastors
have spoken recently of boys who had been influenced toward the ministry by acolyte service. We know one church where two boys are on duty for each service. They have been well trained and are reverent. Both boys have asked their pastor about the call to the ministry. More boys should be enlisted in church work. Nothing will sharpen their loyalty more than some assigned task in connection with the services.

A minister in Hoboken called a minister in Omaha. The long-distance operator asked, "Is it station-to-station?"

"No, parson-to-parson."—Baptist Observer.

●

The Missouri Synod
is consistent with its theological isolationism when it refuses cooperation with National Lutheran Council churches in at least two important services, Student Centers and Missions. As it now stands each group must provide its own quarters for student work, duplicating buildings and staffs. As for missions, we were recently told of a section of one of our large industrial cities where a ULC mission was established before the streets were paved. A Missouri mission church is being started within a stone's throw. Both groups are working in mighty competition to possess the field. Lutheran unity depends on mutual respect. It requires great patience to bear constantly the charge, voiced or implied, that ULC Lutheranism is Lutheran, but . . . !

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LET'S ALL MEET IN MILWAUKEE!!
November 14 — 16, 1947
20th Anniversary Convention
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LUTHERAN BROTHERHOODS

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Nebraska's Kedde
has a special place of honor in the editorial heart because he keeps the news letters coming. From the last executive committee meeting minutes of the synodical Brotherhood we note an appeal for the collection of "clerical robes" to send to European pastors. Fine idea! There is an old robe in almost every vestry, that with a little mending, would still give good service. Lutheran World Relief will be glad to forward them.

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"And what," asked the chief of the Cannibal Islands, in his kindest tones, "was your business before you were captured by my men?"

"I was a newspaper man," answered the captive.

"An editor?"

"No, a mere subeditor."

"Cheer up young man! Promotion awaits you. After dinner you shall be editor-in-chief!" —*The Link*

Guest Contributions

Presidential Message . . .

Savannah, Georgia

Dear Brethren,—

At the Erie convention last year we received the Georgia-Alabama Synodical into the Brotherhood of the U.L.C.A.

I have just witnessed this infant Synodical give expression to its vigor and enthusiasm in its first convention here in The Church of the Ascension. A very fine banquet had been arranged by Chairman Greeno and President Cornwell presided like a veteran.

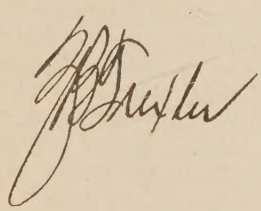
And how repsonsive these leaders are to the suggestions of our national leadership!

ORGANIZATION: Seven new Brotherhoods since the Erie convention.

FINANCES: Unanimous approval of the per capita dues plan and a levy of 50 cents per member for synodical dues.

"And a little child shall lead them!"

Faithfully,



What Makes a Church Attractive?

This brief article is clipped from "Third Church Call" the monthly of Third Lutheran Church, Baltimore, Md., Rev. Paul Keyser, pastor. How does your church stack up on these standards?

Both people who are members and non-members of the Church should be interested in the views of Lin Cartwright on what makes a church win friends and influence people in a community. These ideas are a summary of a chapter in Mr. Cartwright's recent book on "Evangelism Today."

1. **An Atmosphere of Cordiality.** Friendliness and sociability in a church not only attract attention but win the friendship of others.

2. **Attractive Christian Character in its Members.** A congregation is judged sooner or later, by the kind of people who belong to it. If they are stalwart Christians who joyfully try to practice the virtues of Christ in daily life, they win the profound respect of the public.

3. **Wholehearted Participation in Worship.** A church crowded with worshippers who stream into it and then pour out of it, like crowds who may be seen at the Baltimore Stadium or a moving picture theater, make a tremendous impression on a neighborhood. And when folks are in a worship service, their enthusiastic participation in the parts of the service becomes a very contagious thing.

4. **Church Morale.** A wholesome, optimistic, self-confident feeling is "good morale." It is important for individuals and for churches. No one likes a complaining, pessimistic, defeated crepe-hanger. Folks naturally gravitate toward a church where everyone speaks well of it.

5. **Congregational Harmony.** Church harmony is the sweetest music Christian people can render before God and the world. United in a common cause, with a great historic purpose, any church will make its mark in the world and draw people to it. Any evidence of poor team work or disharmony tends to keep people away.

6. **Community Service.** A serving church, attentive and responsive to the needs and welfare of people in the community, will shine like a light by day and night. Christian people who are good neighbors and who support community welfare agencies and activities are a powerful witness!

7. **An Attractive Church Plant and Equipment.** The outside and inside appearance of a church building has much to do with the respect which people come to have for the Church and its program. The people in the church must keep the Church building in first-class condition and supply it with up-to-date, efficient equipment.

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Do We Want An Effective Brotherhood?

By Herman L. Bishop

Mr. Bishop is a past-president of the Brotherhood of the Ministerium of Penna. He is the principal of the Lansdale, Pa., Senior High school and teaches the adult Bible Class at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Hilltown, Pa. Every man interested in the Brotherhood should read this common-sense appeal.

The Brotherhood is the official men's organization of our Church. Do we want it to be fruitful or barren, effective or without avail? Do we really want it to click? If so, we must speedily abandon the idea that it can continue to operate on a shoestring. We must realize right now that without adequate funds there can be no effective program. Only as we give can our Brotherhood live and grow and carry on its much-needed ministry in the great Church that we all love. Will this giving be burdensome? Not unless the men of the church consider a contribution of 2½ cents per week as too much.

The U.L.C.A. Brotherhood in convention assembled at Erie, Penna. in October, 1946, adopted a new dues plan. In place of the totally inadequate classified dues plan, ranging from $3 to $12 per year for each local organization, a per capita dues plan of $1 per year for each member of a congregational Brotherhood or other participating men's group was unanimously approved. The Brotherhood of the Ministerium of Penna. and adjacent States in its Convention at Topton, Penna. in November, 1946 unanimously changed its By-Laws to increase the annual synodical dues from 10 cents to 25 cents per member. Other Synods are taking similar action. Thus with a total contribution of $1.25 per member per year, a local Brotherhood of forty members will pay dues to the amount of $50 as compared to $7.50 under the old plan. Forty dollars of this will go to

Dr. Daniel Nelson, Human Dynamo

An old saying has it that "all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." But Dr Daniel Nelson, the Lutheran World Convention's relief director in China, gets around that adage easily He's a firm believer in combining his work and play

And it's a philosophy that works. There's nothing the least dull about Dan Nelson. Nor about the things he accomplished for missions in Asia during the last years of the war. Such as his feat of rescuing nearly 300 missionaries and their familes from danger zones in China by having them flown to safety in India.

"I maintain that work is play," he declared in an interview at the National Lutheran Council's headquarters in New York City. "You can't separate the two. Not if it's real, satisfying work. If it isn't fun, it wears you out."

"In America, we're slaves of the ticking clock, the endless 9 to 5 routine," he continued, his speech rapid, clipped. "In China, we don't go by the clock. If a visitor comes in, we knock off and have tea. Then we go back to work, even if it is five o'clock. Or six, for that matter. It relieves the strain, both mentally and physically. Try it some time."

Before he finished speaking, Dr. Nelson was on his feet again. You'd never think to look at him that he suffered two broken legs when his car careened over a cliff in China late in 1944 and he nearly lost his life. And you begin to understand how this human dynamo, with his tireless energy, his boundless enthusiasm, was able to get things done when it seemed they couldn't be done at all.

"What keeps me going?" He pondered the question a moment. "Well, the work is definitely worthwhile. It's helping people, and there's satisfaction in that. And the ecumenical aspect is inspiring. At one time I thought only of my own particular little mission. Now I realize that we must pour all our resources into a united front in Asia. We must rise above national and mission and church lines."

"The Chinese are marvelous," he added. "They're forgetting their differences. It's the Westerners who are perpetuating their traditions. We're too station-minded, too mission-minded. We must be world-minded.

Rescuing missionaries, of course, wasn't Dr. Nelson's only function during the trying war years. Another most important task centered in preserving orphaned missions, the stations cut off from their home countries by the war. In addition, he set up a Lutheran Service Center at Chungking and later at Shanghai. And he led in organizing a Lutheran Church in Chungking, in reopening the Union Lutheran Theological Seminary, in reorganizing the Lutheran Board of Publication, and in a score of other activities aimed at keeping the Lutheran Church in China intact for the future.

Son of the first American Lutheran missionary to enter China, his father, the Rev. Daniel Nelson, first representative of the Norwegian Lutheran Church there in 1890, Dr. Nelson was born and reared in China. At 16, he came to the United States to complete high school, was graduated from St. Olaf College and Luther Seminary, and taught school for a year in northern Minnesota.

Dr. Nelson returned to China in 1928 as an NLC missionary, like his father and brother before him. His father died in 1926, victim of a stray bullet during the Chinese Civil War. His brother was killed by Communists in 1930 after being held a prisoner for two years.

Dr. Nelson served two terms in the field, returning to the United States in 1934 and 1941. On the latter visit, he studied for three years at Hartford Seminary Foundation and earned his doctorate in Chinese history and culture. It was providential to say the least, that Dr. Nelson was available just when the Lutheran World Convention was seeking a representative for China.

During the next two years, from March of 1944 to the spring of 1946, Dr. Nelson labored unceasingly in China, to such good effect that the Lutheran Church Council of China wrote: "Under the Providence of God, Dr. Nelson as the able director of Lutheran World Action in the China theater, has been the means of getting us together again, enabling us to plan and work together, not only to meet the most urgent present needs, but also to plan unitedly and effectively for postwar rehabilitation and advance in mission technique."

Now on furlough in the States, Dr. Nelson plans to make a brief trip to Europe to foster a closer cooperation between the Continental and American Missions in Asia, and expects to return to China in October. Since his arrival here, he has been busy with speaking engagements throughout the country. His wife and two children reside in St. Paul, Minn.

Dr. Nelson believes that the Lutheran World Convention faces a threefold program in China during the immediate postwar period, namely, to continue its support of orphaned missions, to help the Lutheran Church of China become conscious of its own influence and power, and to be the liason between the 25 missions in China and help them pool their resources and personnel, both Chinese and Western.

Closest to his heart is the establishment of a Lutheran University in China, a project he feels should be promoted under the leadership of the Lutherans in America. Estimated cost of the school would be about five million, of which American bodies would be expected to contribute one-fifth.

Pointing out that there are thirteen Protestant colleges in China and three Roman Catholic, Dr. Nelson stressed that the Lutherans are the only large denomination in China with no school of college calibre.

Harry B. Fogle Dies of a Heart Attack

Harry B. Fogle, former President of the Lutheran Brotherhood of the Maryland Synod, died February 3rd at Uniontown, Maryland. Harry Fogle was a Christian gentleman in every respect. He gave his life for his church—for every day in his life was devoted to some duty to bulid the Kingdom. The Brotherhood men of the Maryland Synod have suffered a keen loss in Harry as well as the Brotherhod at large. He had a legin of friends, not only in his own Synod, but also throughout the Church, and wherever he met you it was always with a cheery smile, even when suffering from illness.

It was nothing for Harry to leave a sick bed to attend to the duties of his church, wherever the duties took him, regardless of his condition or the weather.

We of the Maryland Synod will miss him very much.

Martin A. McGrory,
Washington, D. C.

The Generous Eye

By Rev. Roger G. Imhoff

The writer is pastor of Fenner Memorial Lutheran Church, Louisville, Kentucky. This brief address was prepared for the radio. LUTHERAN MEN *carries each month a suggestive little word study by Pastor Imhoff.*

From the sermon on the mount comes a mountain top spiritual and moral observation of Jesus that I would wish for you as we begin the new year. Christ uttered the word which could well be the policy on which we men and nations can learn to live together in true peace. He taught, "The Light of the body is the eye; if therefore thine eye be single. thy whole body shall be full of life Moffatt translates it this way, "If thine eyes be generous."

Wherever you are, at home, fortunate enough to put on the finishing touches to a holiday dinner, or driving along the highway, I want to wish for you a generous eye toward your fellowmen in 1947.

Certainly our Lord Jesus was never known to have a stingy eye. No person was so unimportant as to miss His attention. That's why he made so many allegories referring to the "childlike" spirit which was necessary to enter the Kingdom of Heaven. That's why he said, "When I be lifted up I shall lift all men unto me"

Why not resolve to include everyone in your goodwill? You'll be remembered much more for your bigheartedness, than for your pigheadedness. As Paul puts it, "Edify one another". Lend a helping hand to the other fellow; Give him a boost. Who knows, you may be in dire need of such assistance yourself some day. If you have a generous eye, your body will be filled with light; but with an evil eye, you have only the promise of darkness.

Paul says it's easier if you get to know one another, and strive to be at peace among yourselves. You know it's hard enough to build this better world we all dream about, even when we all struggle and march together. let alone some of us trying to elbow each other out of the way, or jockey the other fellow out of his rightful place in society.

Oh, it's all right in some areas of life to be divided for altruistic competitive reasons if our goals are kept high. We can kid each other about being Yankees, or southerners, or city folks or farmers, or Republicans and Democrats, or Male High or Manual High. But when the showdown comes as to building a world worth living in during 1947, we need a generous eye toward each other and all mankind, blocking out the evil for one another, so that our whole team of men and women of goodwill can score a few more touchdowns in the game of world brotherhood.

If God so loved us, we ought also to love one another. It's the only certain way to the abundant and happy life. Abraham had a generous eye. He gave Lot his choice of the best territory that lay before them. After Lot took the best portion, Abraham bore no malice. For later, when Lot and his family were captured by an enemy king, Abraham came to the rescue. No wonder Abraham was chosen of the Lord to become the father of his country. It paid to have a generous eye.

With the whole world waiting for the sunshine, only the people with the generous eye, moved by the spirit of love to all, will be on the right track of world re-conversion. If the lights are to be turned on at all, they must be turned on ALL over the world, with no particular nation being evil eyed enough to make more unfortunate peoples the oyster of economic and political aggrandizement. It never has worked before. Caesar, the Czars of Russia, Mussolini and Hitler are exhibit "A"s on that.

If free enterprise is food for anyone, it is good for all. If it is good for the big business man, it is good for the little business man. The generous-eyed person would never try to corner all opportunity for himself. Somehow, I don't think I could ever make $100,000 a year and then complain because some other fellow wanted a nickel more on the hour. If only we would all take up the challenge of Stevenson in his famous line, "The world is full of a number of things; I am sure we should all be as happy as kings."

Lincoln had the right idea. If anyone was in a position to succumb to the evil eye, Lincoln had the excuse. But he destroyed his enemies by making friends of them. It was out of a generous heart that came the immortal expression of greatheartedness, "With malice toward none, with charity for all. With firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right."

We were all put on this earth for better or for worse, till death do us part. If we take the time to see others as the Lord sees them, and be generous to others as the Lord is generous to them, and forgive others as the Lord forgives them, we'd then see the clear path of striving to be perfect even as the Lord is perfect. Every time we cast an evil eye toward our neighbor, we start a run on the bank of God's love and patience. While so many of us are "seeing the world", let's don't miss seeing the people in it; all of them God's children.

Harry B. Fogle

The death of Harry B. Fogle, Uniontown, Maryland, widely known banker and Lutheran churchman, on Monday, February 3, 1947, came as a shock to his host of friends and associates. He had suffered a heart attack on the previous day and was removed to the University Hospital, Baltimore, Maryland, where his death was altogether unexpected.

Brother Fogle was born December 24, 1886, in Carroll County, Maryland, and was Assistant Treasurer of the Union Bridge Bank & Trust Company. He was a past president of the Maryland Synodical Brotherhood, where his outstanding work gained him churchwide recognition for his efforts in organizing the laymen of his synod.

He was an active member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Uniontown, Maryland for many years, serving on the church council and as superintendent of the Sunday School. At the time of his death he was also a member of the Board of Directors of the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, Pa.

Brother Fogle is survived by his wife, Mrs. Mary Baughman Fogle, one daughter, Mrs. Miriam F. West, at home, and one grandson. Funeral services were conducted on February 5th by his pastor, The Rev. Charles E. Birx, assisted by The Rev. Lloyd M. Keller, D.D., President of the Maryland Lutheran Synod, with interment in the Lutheran Cemetery, Uniontown, Maryland.

Brother Fogle will be remembered for his genial disposition and willingness to serve wherever needed. It was a genuine pleasure to work with him and his enthusiasm for the Brotherhood, especially for LUTHERAN MEN, added many Maryland readers to our mailing list.

The officers and Executive Committee of the U.L.C.A. Brotherhood extend their christian sympathy to Mrs. Fogle and family in their time of sorrow.

the U.L.C.A. Brotherhood treasury and $10 to the synodical organization. It will also put an end to the stamp solicitations and other special appeals. Furthermore, it will eliminate the unjustifiable practice of drawing on LUTHERAN MEN funds to carry on the work of our national organization. LUTHERAN MEN has been self-supporting for some years, but with increased costs of paper, printing and labor it cannot and should not help to support the Brotherhood. So we are asking for $1.25 dues per member per year. Think of it, $1.25 per YEAR, ten cents per month, two and a half cents per week! A cent once every three days for Brotherhood work. One dollar and twenty-five cents per year—much less than the price of a tank full of gas or a ticket to a college football game. If we think this amount excessive and don't mind having our face turn red let's do a bit of investigating and ask the ladies of the Women's Missionary Society or the young people of the Luther League what their annual dues and special contributions are. Are the men of the Church with their vigorous masculinity, their loyalty and their courage going to question a dues payment of $1.25 per year if this will make our organization the effctive church auxiliary we want it to be?

Now let us pursue the making of comparisons a bit further. Let us compare the published total receipts of our three church auxiliaries as reported in the 1947 U.L.C.A. Year Book. We find that total receipts for the Women's Missionary Society for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1946 were $722,328.52. For the Luther League, for the year ending December 31, 1945—$34,254.06. For the Brotherhood, for the year ending June 30, 1946—$17,519.54. (This amount includes $9,027.84 received from LUTHERAN MEN subscriptions.)

Again we are last—last because of lack of funds. Certainly we cannot expect our officers and workers to carry on a $25,000 program with only $8,500 in available funds.

The Erie convention referred to above, adopted a budget of $23,500 for the next biennium. This includes money to liquidate a $5,000 deficit which has accumulated over the past two and a half bienniums

Now let us look at the future. The new per capita dues plan of $1.00 should yield an annual income of $25,000. How is this to be used? What will we get for our dollar? All of us should rightfully want to be informed on this matter.

(1) The new plan should make possible the engaging of an urgently needed Field Secretary to help in the organization of new conference and synodical Brotherhoods.

(2) It will make possible the defraying of traveling expenses of four Field Men, all members of the U.L.C.A. Brotherhood Executive Committee, who will give of their time free for Brotherhood promotional work in various areas of the U.L.C. A. territory.

(3) We are looking forward to having a full time Boy Scout Field Worker. Although we lead all other denominations in Boy Scout work, there is a pressing need for expansion in this important youth activity.

(4) Brotherhood Sunday literature is to be improved and extended. The promotional material in this field has been outstanding. Have you been using it?

(5) Additional support is to be given to Lutheran World Action. In many congregations that have reached their quota the Brotherhood has been the moving factor.

(6) More than 300 local Brotherhoods have special pre-lenten committees working to bring back lapsed church members by Easter communion time. Further impetus and help is to be given in promoting this vital Brotherhood objective.

(7) The annual Every Member Visitation, now conducted by Brotherhood men in many congregations, is to be encouraged and additional helps provided.

(8) Cost of operation has advanced. Increased costs of printing, postage, travel expenses, salaries, and lay pensions for Brotherhood Headquarters employees all need to be met. This requires larger budgets. The U.L.C.A. Brotherhood has set as its immediate goal the gigantic task of establishing an active Synodical and District Brotherhood in every Synod of the church. A minimum of 100 new congregational Brotherhoods will be established during the present biennium. This will require a vast amount of organization literature and sample copies of LUTHERAN MEN, with individual visitation and assistance by qualified Brotherhood organizers.

You may be surprised to learn that more than 750,000 pieces of literature were mailed from Brotherhood headquarters during 1946. An even larger amount will be needed during the coming year. This does not include the complimentary copies of LUTHERAN MEN still going out monthly to our Lutheran Chaplains, and army and navy service centers and reading rooms in the United States and in all parts of the world. All of the forward looking plans now contemplated are of necessity dependent on increased funds. The new per capita dues plan is the answer.

The new plan gives promise of an effective organization of the manpower of our Church in our U.L.C.A. Brotherhood, The liquor interests, bandit gangs, and dope rings of our land know the value of organization. Every effective fraternal order, lodge, service club and political party is organized from top to bottom and national in scope. May we not take a lesson from them? Jesus said: "The children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light". (Luke 16:8) As men of the Church and supposedly "children of light" we have not yet capitalized to any large degree, on this very effective source of strength—organization. How glibly we sing, "Onward Christian Soldiers, Marching as to War" quite unmindful of the fact that soldiers are part of an army, and are effective only to the extent to which they are organized and leagued together in a common cause. When we support the Brotherhood, we identify ourselves with the program of the Church at large. Only by united action can we promote "the Whole Program of the Whole Church."

Every efficient army has a definite plan of action. There must be a plan to work before we can work a plan. Someone must be responsible for drawing up this plan. It must constantly be adapted to meet changing opportunities and demands for Kingdom Service. Who is to do this work? It must be someone at the top who has a perspective of the entire territory to be served. Someone who can see the field as a whole and sense the needs as they exist in all parts of the land. Local organizations do not have the information and perspective to do this. As in the army, the plan of action must emanate from field headquarters, formulated from reports and information gathered from all quarters. The officers and executive board of our U.L.C.A. Brotherhood render this service. Thus the Brotherhood today has its Six Objectives, a six-point program that challenges the best in our men everywhere.

As Christian men it is our privilege and duty to promote His Kingdom here on earth. The same Jesus our Lord who said, "Come unto me", also said "Go ye" and "ye shall be witnesses unto me". The field is "white unto the harvest". We cannot all go into the harvest field as individuals but we have here an oportunity to send someone to be our representative. There is urgent need for a full time field worker. More funds is the

answer. *We dare not fail* in this task of Kingdom building.

Brethren, we certainly want our Brotherhood to hold its rightful place as a responsible auxiliary of our beloved Church. Let's call a halt now to its years of struggle because of constant financial embarrassments. Let's support the new per capita dues plan whole-heartedly and vigorously. Let's see that our dollars get to Headquarters NOW. By the Grace of God we can usher in the bright light of a new and glorious day for the Brotherhood. And what is more important, by so doing, we are laying up for ourselves treasures in heaven, "where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through and steal."

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The Parable of a Prodigal Father

By Blake Godfrey

This parable is from "Father and Son Library." It was sent to the editorial desk by Dr. Alvin E. Bell, pastor of Glenwood Lutheran Church, Toledo, Ohio. It speaks for itself.

A certain man had two sons, and the younger of them said to his father, "Father, give me the portion of thy time, and thy attention, and thy companionship, and thy counsel which falleth to me." And he divided unto them his living in that he paid the boy's bills and sent him to a select preparatory school, and to dancing school and to college, and tried to believe that he was doing his full duty by the boy.

And not many days after the father gathered all his interests and aspirations and ambitions and took a journey into a far country, into a land of stocks and bonds and securities and other things which do not interest a boy; and there he wasted his precious opportunity of being a chum to his own son. And when he had spent the very best of his life and had gained money, but had failed to find satisfaction, there arose a mighty famine in his heart; and he began to be in want of sympathy and real companionship. And he went and joined himself to one of the clubs of that country; and they elected him chairman of the house committee and president of the club and sent him to Congress. And he would fain have satisfied himself with the husks that other men did eat, and no man gave unto him any real friendship.

But when he came to himself he said, "How many men of my acquaintance have boys whom they understand and who understand them, who talk about their boys and associate with their boys and seem perfectly happy in the comradeship of their sons,and I perish here with heart hunger! I will arise and go to my son, and will say unto him, Son, I have sinned against Heaven and in thy sight; I am no more worthy to be called thy father; make me as one of thy acquaintances." And he arose and came to his son. But while he was yet afar off, his son saw him, and was moved with astonishment, and instead of running and falling on his neck, he drew back and was ill at ease. And the father said unto him, "Son, I have sinned against Heaven, and in thy sight; I am no more worthy to be called thy father. Forgive me now and let me be your friend." But the son said, "Not so. I wish it were possible, but it is too late. There was a time when I wanted companionship and counsel and to know things, but you were too busy. I got the companionship and I got the information, but I got the wrong kind, and now, alas- I am wrecked in soul and body, there is no more heart left in me, and there is nothing you can do for me. It is too late, too late, too late."

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Levite, 1947 Model

By George E. Bowersox, Jr.

Many weekly and monthly church bulletins come to the editor's desk. They are much appreciated. Now and then they furnish good reading for Lutheran Men. "Brass Tax" is the title under which Pastor Bowersox greets his people of the Salisbury Charge. Here is a little editorial with a big message.

It was a typical autumn afternoon. Driving along in my car, I was making a series of pastoral calls upon my rural members. Never, it seemed to me, had "the roof garden of Pennsylvania" been more beautiful or the tree-crowned hills more colorful. Subconsciously glorying in the splendor of God's handiwork and consciously thinking about other things, supposedly most important to a country pastor, I noticed with alarm a large rock on the way ahead that undoubtedly had fallen from a rather steep embankment by the side of the road. My reaction was instantaneous. I swerved the car and passed on, much like a modern day Levite. I passed on and then, just a few feet ahead, drove over a double-tracked grade crossing of one of America's largest railroads. It was later in the afternoon that I chanced to come back the same way. A car was stopping in front of the railroad tracks and a rather small woman alighted. She had about her an air of determination and purpose. Nor was I mistaken in my impression for a moment later she was tugging and straining at the large rock. That rock meant nothing to her. Like me she had missed it. She could have passed by—BUT SHE DIDN'T! Perhaps she thought of the fog that would some in the Fall evening and of other drivers, who in the dark of night, might hit the rock and careen off the road or into the path or side of a train. Since that time I have been thinking of other ROCKS ALONG THE ROAD OF LIFE; the loneliness of the aged, the anxiety of the sick, the problems of young and middle-aged and the needs of my people and others who live in the area of the four rural churches, where they and God have called me to serve. And in my pastoral ministry, truly quite busy with many things, I am trying not to pass them by. WHAT A LESSON FOR US ALL!

●

Billy Rose, the columnist, told a good one the other day. Two preachers were candidating down in Tennessee. (Couldn't be in a Lutheran church.) Heppelwhite was a windy fellow but not much on content. Snow was the thinker, not long on delivery. They were to have a sort of audition on a Sunday and were entertained in the same home Saturday night. Before going to bed Snow practiced his sermon and Heppelwhite listened. It was a masterpiece—"Billy Sunday sliding home to glory. William Jennings Bryan and 'the cross of gold!' " Heppelwhite knew he could not beat that but he did have a good memory. The next morning they matched to see who would preach first and Heppelwhite won. He preached Snow's sermon, word for word and with all the arts of a spell-binder. Poor Snow, knew he couldn't preach a new sermon on the spur of the moment, so in a montonous voice he gave the sermon word for word and thought he was beaten. Here is the report of the elders:

"Heppelwhite gave us a mighty fine sermon, but a man who can listen to a 30-minute speech and then stand up and repeat it word for word is a pretty special fellow. Reverend, the job is yours!"

Any moral to the story? Well, it might be that the smart usually end by outsmarting themselves.

Letterally Yours

BIBLE LEXICOGRAPHY

BY REV. ROGER G. IMHOFF

SIN . . .

is a reproach to any people,
fools make a mock of it,
against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven,
is over all,
shall not have dominion over those under grace,
its wages is death,
is all unrighteousness,
the blood of Christ cleanseth us from it.

●

Lutheran Brotherhood Elects New Director

At the last meeting of the Board of Directors, held on November 1, 1946, Mr. William G. Fisher was elected as a member of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee of Lutheran Brotherhood.

Mr. Fisher came to Lutheran Brotherhod in 1936 from the Ingersoll Steel Division of the Borg-Warner Company of Chicago. He is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin and has done post-graduate work at Northwestern University in the School of Business Administration. During the first World War, he served in the air corps as an aviator and during the last world conflict, he served the nation as a Major in the Civil Air Patrol. Being a great believer in the training of the youths of today, Mr. Fisher is actively engaged in serving the Boy Scouts of America both locally and nationally . . . he is a National Council Representative and a member of the Protestant Relationship Committee.

The distinction of being the first fraternalist to have passed the official C. L. U. examinations (Certified Life Underwriters) under the sponsorship of the *National Association of Life Underwriters* goes to Mr. Fisher.

Since coming to Lutheran Brotherhood in 1936, he has served as Assistant Superintendent of Agencies, as Assistant to the President, and as Executive Vice President, the office he now holds. He has at all times been vitally interested in sales affairs and in the personal welfare of the agents in the field.

During his ten years with the Lutheran Brotherhood, the annual sales of new business has gone up as an unexcelled record among legal reserve life insurance societies. In 1937, annual sales totaled $4,906,821; during the single year of 1945, new business totaled $20,254,992. The sales for 1946 will shatter all past records of Lutheran Brotherhood. As of October 30, 1946, new business sales totaled $31,397,544.

We know that the many friends of Mr. Fisher's in the insurance world will join us in congratulating him on his new appointment with Lutheran Brotherhood.

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Eats at an N. C. Local

The annual banquet of Holy Trinity Brotherhood was held recently in the McAllister School Cafeteria in Mt. Pleasant, N. C.

The ladies of the church prepared a Turkey dinner with all the trimmings.

President Lester Johnson presided and Prof. R. Brown McAllister served as toastmaster.

Invited guests were A. W. and Mrs. Fisher, Mr. Fisher being the Director of the Loan & Gift Fund, Synodical Brotherhood of N. C. and Zeb B. and Mrs. Trexler, Mr. Trexler being President of the Brotherhood of the U.L.C.A.

After the meal special music was rendered by Mr. Howard Barrier, accompained by Mrs. Geo. Lewis Barrier following which Rev. J. W. Link read the scripture.

Rev. Dermont Swicegood, Pastor of Center Grove E. L. Church, Kannapolis, N. C. was the principal speaker. His topic was "What is Life?" A man's life consisted not in the ABUNDANCE of things" the speaker said, then proceeded to show that: 1. Life is not fortune. 2. Life is not fame. 3. Life is not pleasure.

"Jesus puts character above possessions", he said "Life is:" 1. Know God. 2. Love. 3. Do God's will "then we will LOVE PEOPLE, he said.

Zeb B. Trexler offered prayer.

John H. Herion, Secy.

Congregational Brotherhoods are the foundation of the whole Brotherhood structure. Lutheran men want to hear about successful programs like this. —*Ed*

●

Georgia-Alabama Synodical Brotherhood

The second annual convention of the Brotherhood of the Georgia-Alabama Synod held on Tuesday afternoon, Jan. 28th, at the Church of the Ascension in Savannah, set a fast tempo for the impending sessions of the synod. Spurred on by the timely remarks of the president of the U.L.C.A. Brotherhood, Z. B. Trexler, of Concord, N. C., who challenged the men to co-operative and energetic service in their local churches and their synod, the convention voted unanimously to re-elect its present officers. Those re-elected are as follows: president, J. Hardy Cornwell, Smithville, Ga.; first vice president, Louis Greeno, Savannah; second vice president, Compton Usina, Macon; secretary, W. E. Wight, Atlanta; treasurer, W. J. Ehrensperger, Birmingham, Ala.; executive committeeman, C. M. Kessler, Atlanta; J. W. Bowick, Augusta, and E. G. Baumer, Atlanta.

It was reported to the convention that in the two-state synod there are at present only two congregations not having Lutheran Brotherhoods or other men's organizations. Five new organizations were accepted into the organization, those of the Ogelthorpe and Haralson Parishes, and those of St. Luke's Church, Thunderbolt, the Church of the Ascension, and the Church of the Good Shepherd, Garden City, Savannah.

A step forward in the solidarity of this young organization of the Synod was taken in the decision to inaugurate a monthly news-sheet in possible conjunction with one proposed by the Synod.

Mr. Lewis Greeno, Savannah, first vice president, is to be commended for his great activity in the Ebenezer Conference which has resulted in the formation of seven new Brotherhoods, and for his splendid work in preparation for the convention and banquet arrangements.

Resolutions were passeed by the synodical in setting annual dues for itself, and in endorsing the action of the U.L.C.A. Brotherhood in setting annual dues.

A banquet followed the business session. At the banquet Dr. James C. Kinard, president of Newberry College, Newberry, S. C., and Z. B. Trexler, president of the U.L.C.A. Brotherhood were heard. Each gave vigorous emphasis to the need for individual, consecrated service in the work of the Church.

J. H. Cornwell

This convention won special mention in the Presidential Message this month. Some of our older Synodicals had better watch their laurels! These youngsters, like Ga.-Ala., are on their toes! More power to them! —*Ed*

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A Live Rural Brotherhood

Treehaven Dairy Farm
Verona, N. Y.
November 25, 1946

Dear Editor,—

As past president of St. Peter's Lutheran Brotherhood I wish to thank you for the valuable material you sent me at the beginning of my year.

May I give you a report of our activities during the year. The Brotherhood sponsored a Boy Scout Troop No. 28, which now contains 16 boys. Their leader, Mr. John Widman, is doing a fine piece of work with the assistance of Mr. Wm. Lohr

who is totally blind. Although handicapped, this assistant scoutmaster this past summer rescued a five year old girl by diving in ten feet of water three times.

Owing to difficult roads in winter we had only six meetings of our Brotherhood, but they were very well attended. An average of twenty-seven men in a rural congregation within a radius of ten miles.

Our Brotherhood did a very good job in Lutheran World Action campaign.

We also contributed to the Clinton Home for the Aged.

Our final meeting of the year was a banquet for fathers and sons with the Scout troop as our honored guest. Seventy-nine attended this meeting. Greetings from Central Conference Brotherhood were conveyed to us by the Secretary, Mr. Clark Goodling of Utica, N. Y. the president of Central Conference Brotherhood, Mr. Gustav Schneider of Syracuse, being unable to attend because of another engagement. Rev. Edmund Bosch, a past army chaplain, was speaker of the evening.

The six point program was fully carried out during the year.

The election of officers for this coming year includes three ex-service men and they are as follows:

President, Arthur Agne; Vice President, Arthur Hurig; Sec.-Treas., George Sutter; Directors, Earl Angell, Stephen Smith, and George Swarmer.

Enclosed find check for subscription to LUTHERAN MEN, which has helped me very much in devotional topics for meetings. Again I thank you.

Yours truly,
Floyd Scheifele

Thank you Brother Scheifele, for your letter. We like to hear from live organizations like yours. —Ed.

●

A Good Book Project

Sagamore, Penna.

Dear Editor Traver,—

I have just completed the new book, "Road to Reformation" and to me it stands head and shoulders above all other works on Luther's life that I have read. There is something really fascinating about this work and one dislikes to lay it aside once they have started reading it.

Now since this book is so worthwhile it is up to us Lutherans to see that it receives wide publicity. I wish sincerely that a copy might be placed in every public library and reading room in America but I know that such an ideal is too impractical. However, we should be able to see that it is placed in many. I have managed already to persuade at least four Luther Leagues to place one in their local library by offering to pay one-half the cost if they will buy and present the book in their name.

The Brotherhood could push this matter if they would. Would it be out of order for you to give a short review of this good work in a coming issue of LUTHERAN MEN and then suggest and urge the Brotherhoods to see that this book is placed in their local libraries? Our men are sleeping compared to the women of the church. What the women undertake to do they do and the men merely talk about doing things and pass resolutions. Is this just a native condition for men or why can't they get a bit enthused about really setting a task before them and then carrying it through in a high fashion.

My good wishes to you in your effort to arouse them to greater things.

Very sincerely,
Walter Whitacre

You are right, brother Whitacre, about "Road to Reformation". I picked it up for a hasty reading and was absorbed in it for three evenings. Have been back to it several times since. Our Publication House is to be congratulated. —Ed.

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Lancaster (Penna.) Conference News

The Winter conference of the Brotherhood was held in Christ Church, Elizabethtown with Rev. Willard Weida giving the principal address on "People vs The Church Magazines." The first president of the organization, Mr. Coleman from Salem Church, Lebanon installed officers. Seventy-five men were attendance.

The Mid-Winter Rally was held at St. John's, Columbia, with more than 300 men present. Mr. Ongkar Narayan spoke on our work in British Guiana. A choir of 24 men from Advent Church, York sang. Secretary William Hershey of the ULCA Brotherhood brought greetings.

J. H. Clark

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Cosmopolitan Lutheranism

Dear Editor,—

Long time no hear nor see. Just had a wonderful Christmas with junior —he lost forty seven pounds since last September but seems in good health—the loss was induced by not eating many sweets. Best Christmas I ever had with Martin—his wife and my granddaughter—darn am I getting old.

Here's a good one—Don't call the Lutheran Church a Scandanavian—it is National—there are as many Irish Lutherans as there are any others.

The Parkersburg Sentinel had this:

The Old Reliable Bible Class had a meeting at the home of Mrs. David Mulligan. Among those present were Forrest Lee Canady, Pat Welch, Mrs. Joseph McKibbin, Michael McElroy.

and on the side—a telephone call came into the Lutheran Inner Mission as follows:

Hello, Lutheran Inner Mission Society—Martin McGrory speaking—

Answer: This is Father Canavan of the Catholic Men's League, could you give me the full name of Dr. Maier—who did you say this was speaking—

Answer: Martin Aloysius McGrory, Acting Executive Director Lutheran Inner Mission Society—

Answer: My God—How did you get there—

Answer: I opened my eyes—what do you want—

Answer: Dr. Maier the radio speakers full name—

Answer: Dr. Walter Maier, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo.

Answer—Goodbye Martin.

Happy New Year to you.

Mac.

"Mac" is Martin A. McGrory, long time Brotherhood promoter in the nation's capital and member of our executive committee. Junior is his son, who was seriously ill some time ago. Both father and son were U. S. Marines. Lutheran men will rejoice with "Mac" over the return of health to his son. —Ed.

●

Definitions

are important, but difficult. They may be true but confusing as "a spade is a spade that you spade with when you spade." The arguments over doctrinal statements very often come out of differences in definitions. A word means one thing to one and something else to another. Doctrinal agreements often are full of "diplomatic words." Both parties sign, each on his own interpretation. Columnist Olson who writes for The Lutheran Companion under the heading "The Spectator" quotes a paragraph on inspiration from Admanson's Journal:

"I believe with all my heart that Isaiah is inspired by the Holy Spirit but I doubt with the same heart that Dr. Abednego of the Mt. Gilboa Theological Seminary can explain that inspiration in three sentences. Why you can't describe the soul of a rose in a quatrain, how then can you expect to imprison the soul of Isaiah plus the Spirit working in him, in a geometric formula? It is a waste of time to bombard one another with definitions. It only proves that we lack imagination. Read Isaiah, my friend, really read with heart and soul and mind, and you will apprehend what inspiration is. Also, you will lose your passion for definitions. More than one preacher has been murdered with definitions. You can't arrest the literalistic legalist who has committed the crime. Had he used a revolver or a knife you could handcuff him and mete out proper punishment. But when old scholastic phrases are used, they kill—leaving no evidence behind . . . . as if one were stabbing with icicles."

The Executive Secretary's

MONTHLY MESSAGE

MR. EARLE W. BADER, 62 East Garrison Street, Bethlehem, Pa.

Improving the Monthly Meeting

In the February issue we suggested eight steps to increase the efficiency of your general Brotherhood program. This month we will attempt to bring you specific suggestions to improve your monthly meetings.

The monthly meeting is the cornerstone of our Brotherhood program. Upon the type of program, and the ability and initiative of the officers will depend very largely the success of the monthly meetings, and ultimately determine the value of the Brotherhood to its membership and the congregation of which it is a part.

Our experience based on more than 25 years proves that each congregational brotherhood will rise and fall in proportion to the interest and attendance at the monthly meetings.

Here are some of the factors that will contribute to a successful meeting:

1. It should be clearly understood that the four-fold program of the Brotherhood based on the Six Objectives is Worship, Education, Fellowship and Service.

2. The monthly program should be centered around the purpose of providing an interesting profitable meeting for the brotherhood members. This is their meeting, and the officers should not monopolize the time by lengthy speeches; but rather encourage the individual members to express their thoughts and ideas.

3. If possible, hold twelve stated meetings a year, and never postpone your monthly meeting unless it is absolutely necessary.

4. Open your meeting at the appointed time even if only a few members are present.

5. No congregational brotherhood meeting should last longer than one hour and thirty minutes, and the time should be carefully allocated. For example: opening devotions—15 minutes; topic presentation and discussion—30 minutes; business—30 minutes, special feature—15 minutes. This is to be followed by adjournment at the specified time, and then a planned fellowship hour with refreshments, if desired.

6. The executive committee should get together before each meeting to iron out any matters that may provoke unnecessary debate at the business session. We cannot expect to hold the interest of our most capable laymen unless the business and fellowship program are carefully planned before-hand.

7. The splendid LUTHERAN MEN topics, with the members presenting their own program, have proved the fallacy of inviting "outside" speakers who discuss secular topics.

8. The topic chairman and assistants should be carefully selected for the entire year and assignments made at the January meeting. Our laymen do not like the idea of being called on to present the topic, read the Scripture lessons or give a prayer without due notice.

9. The standing committees—Membership—Six Objectives—LUTHERAN MEN—Finance—Lutheran World Action—Every Member Visitation, etc. should be given ample time for their reports. No committee should be permitted to report "progress" unless it has actually done some work.

10. Always keep in mind that the Brotherhood's first responsibility is the service to its own congregation, through the "Six Objectives", and the strengthening of Christian Fellowship among all of its members.

* * *

Heiby W. Ungerer

Heiby W. Ungerer, prominent attorney and active lay leader and a former member of the U.L.C.A. Brotherhood Executive Committee, died in the Genesee Hospital, Rochester, N. Y., on Thursday, January 23rd, 1947, following an operation for a kidney ailment.

Brother Ungerer entered the hospital for a routine physical checkup prior to leaving for his winter home in West Palm Beach, Florida. An immediate operation was advised, and this was performed on Wednesday, January 22nd. His death Thursday noon was altogether unexpected.

He was elected a member of the U.L.C.A. Brotherhood Executive Committee at the Springfield Convention in 1936 and served until the Minneapolis Convention in 1944. The Brotherhood will never forget his outstanding contribution at the Springfield and Columbus Conventions in 1934 in preparing and carrying through to adoption of the Brotherhood's Fifth Objective—"Practice and Promote Christian Citizenship". At that time he was accorded nationwide acclaim for his foresight in recognizing the need for Christian churchmen to make their influence felt in solving the complex political and social problems of our day.

HEIBY V. UNGERER

Brother Ungerer was born in Lyons, N. Y. on Feb. 19, 1889, and received his academic training at Hobart College and the Columbia Law Schools. Following his admittance to the New York State Bar in 1915 he began his law practice in Rochester, N. Y.

He was a member of the Lutheran Church of the Reformation, Rochester N. Y., where he had served as a Sunday School teacher for more than twenty-five years and as a member of the church council for twenty-seven years. He was also a past president of the Rochester Lutheran Inner Mission Union; the Federation of

Churches, and the Federation of Men's Bible Classes of that city. Synodical activities have long claimed Brother Ungerer's attention and he was a legal advisor to, and a member of, the Committee which effected the merger of the United Lutheran Synod of New York in 1929. His varied and fruitful service to the United Lutheran Church marks him as one of the outstanding Lutheran laymen of this generation. He was a delegate to every convention of the U.L.C.A. since 1924, with the exception of the Baltimore Convention in 1938. At the Cleveland Convention of the U.L.C.A. held in October, 1946, he was named president of the Board of American Missions, of which he had been a member for the past eight years. He was also a former president of the U.L.C.A. Board of Education and for many years a member of the Board of Trustees of Wagner Memorial College, Staten Island, N. Y.. and the Lutheran Theological Seminary, Philadelphia, Pa.

Brother Ungerer was an extensive traveler and attended the Lutheran World Convention in Copenhagen in 1929.

His service to the Brotherhood dates from the early years of our organization. In 1930 he was honored by election to become the first president of The Brotherhood of The United Lutheran Synod of New York. Since that time he has been active in his local church brotherhood, as well as in the Western Conference of the New York Synod Brotherhood, and the U.L.C.A. Brotherhood. He was a long time member of the Lutheran Laymen's Movement for Christian Stewardship. Lutheran Unity was one of his special interests and he became a charter member of the newly organized "Lutheran Men in America" movement, which was launched in Pittsburgh in 1945.

Brother Ungerer is survived by his wife, the former Jane Reale, one brother, Hartwig, of Lyons, N. Y., and two sisters. There are no children.

Funeral services were held on Saturday afternoon, January 25, from The Lutheran Church of the Reformation, Rochester, N. Y., with his pastor, Dr. Alfred L. Beck, and Dr. Frederick C. Knubel, president of The United Lutheran Synod of New York, conducting the service. Dr. Franklin Clark Fry, President of the United Lutheran Church in America, was also in attendance.

The passing of Brother Ungerer has removed one of the most conscientious and clear thinking Lutheran laymen of our time. In a recent letter his pastor, Dr. Alfred L. Beck, writes "I have often felt that with him his church came first and his business affairs second. We have certainly lost a talented leader here in The Church of the Reformation."

The officers of the U.L.C.A. Brotherhood join the staff at Headquarters in extending our Christian sympathy to Mrs. Ungerer in her time of sorrow.

* * *

Administrative Committee

The first meeting of the Administrative Committee for this biennium was held in the Sylvania Hotel, Philadelphia, Pa., January 20, 1947, with the following members and visitors in attendance:

Zeb B. Trexler, Martin A. McGrory, William Shetlock, W. K. S. Hershey, W. Don Morton, Rev. C. E. McCarney, D.D., Rev. Paul A. Weidley, D.D., Alfred Arneson, Sr., Dr. Geo. A. Eichler, Rev. Marcus F. Otterbein and Earle W. Bader.

President Trexler presided at the meeting and his report emphasized the need for working toward a more effective organization and adequately financial Synodical, District and U.L.C.A. Brotherhoods during the present biennium.

President Trexler has arranged an itinerary which will bring him into a wide section of our church this year. He attended the Georgia-Alabama and the Texas Synodical Brotherhood Conventions during January and February, and he will also attend the New England Conference and Pittsburgh Synodical Brotherhood Conventions in April and May. Other invitations have been received and he will schedule as many appointments as his health and time permit.

Resolutions expressing the appreciation of the U.L.C.A. Brotherhood to Dr. P. E. Monroe, President of Lenoir Rhyne College, for making it possible for President Trexler to perform his duties as President, and to the North Carolina Synodical Brotherhood for their generosity in granting $500.00 for his annual traveling expenses were unanimously approved.

Space will not permit a detailed report of the many matters considered by the Committee. However, we believe you are interested in the following actions:

(1) Dr. Geo. A. Eichler, Northampton, Pa., Editor of the Boy Scout Page in LUTHERAN MEN, was elected to serve as Chairman of the U.L.C.A. Boy Scout Committee, to fill the vacancy created by the death of Harold D. Foster.

(2) The following were elected to serve as part time Field Secretaries in their respective and nearby Synods:

Mr. Alfred Arneson, Sr.,
Chicago, Illinois

Mr. Wm. F. Kedde,
Omaha, Nebraska

Mr. Martin A. McGrory,
Washington, D. C.

Mr. W. Don Morton,
Minneapolis, Minnesota

These brethren will begin their field work immediately under the direction of the Executive Secretary. They are giving their services without charge; but, their traveling expenses will be paid by the U.L.C.A. Brotherhood. A detailed announcement regarding the new field secretaries and their activities will appear in the April issue of LUTHERAN MEN.

(3) Recognizing the need for more frequent meetings of our Synodical and District Brotherhood workers, the Committee unanimously approved a church-wide series of regional Brotherhood officers' conferences to be held during the month of September, 1947.

(4) After considering invitations received from the Allentown Conference Brotherhood, the Ministerium of Pennsylvania Brotherhood, the East Pennsylvania Conference Brotherhood, the Central Pennsylvania Synodical Brotherhood, Muhlenberg College, and the Lutheran Pastoral Association of Allentown, Pa., it was unanimously agreed that the 16th Biennial Convention of the U.L.C.A. Brotherhood will be held in Allentown, Pa., with Headquarters at the Americus Hotel, Allentown, Pa. immediately preceding the Convention of the United Lutheran Church to be held in Philadelphia during October, 1948. This year will mark the 200th anniversary of the organization of the Ministerium of Pennsylvania and the Committee felt that our Convention should be held on the territory of the mother synod of the Lutheran Church in America.

(5) The Executive Committee accepted the gracious invitation of the Twin City Council of Lutheran Brotherhoods to hold the annual meeting of the U.L.C.A. Brotherhood Executive Committee in Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, on June 28,

1947. The Executive Committee members and their wives will be the guests of the Kitchener-Waterloo Brotherhoods during their stay in Canada. A large rally of the Canada Synod Brotherhoods will be arranged to coincide with the visit of the Executive Committee.

(6) The Executive Committee has approved the nomination made by the Administrative Committee and elected Dr. Roy H. Johnson, Thiel College, Greenville, Pa., President of the Pittsburgh Synodical Brotherhood, to serve as Vice President of the U.L.C.A. Brotherhood until the next biennial Convention. Dr. Johnson will fill the vacancy created by the death of Mr. Harold D. Foster in October, 1946.

(7) The next meeting of the Administrative Committee will be held in Philadelphia, Pa., on Saturday, April 12, 1947.

President Zeb Trexler requested Rev. G. E. McCarney, D.D., Conshohocken, Pa., to close the meeting with a brief memorial service for Vice President Harold D. Foster, who died suddenly on October 23, 1946.

* * *

Harold D. Foster Memorial Service

The Administrative Committee of the United Lutheran Church Brotherhood met in the Sylvania Hotel, Philadelphia, Pa., on January 20, 1947.

In response to the request of the Brotherhood President, Mr. Zeb B. Trexler, the following brief Memorial Service was conducted by Dr. G. E. McCarney as the members of the Committee stood in reverent attitude.

This Service is held in loving memory of our Brother, Mr. Harold D. Foster.

In the passing of Harold Foster, we, as a Committee, have lost a true friend and co-worker; The Brotherhood has lost a strong advocate; The Boy Scout Movement has lost an effective Leader.

How well do I remember the occasion, in the Reading Y.M.C.A., when Harold was nominated and later elected to the Presidency of the East Pennsylvania Conference Brotherhood. From that moment his rise in the councils of the Church was spectacular. His winsome personality and deep interest in the Lord's Work enabled him to achieve the highest offices of leadership and responsibility. He served four years as Secretary of the U.L.C.A. Brotherhood, and as the effective Chairman of the important Boy Scout Committee. He was elected Vice President of the U.L.C.A. Brotherhood at the Erie Convention, and was selected as President of the Central Pennsylvania Synodical Brotherhood at their annual convention at Gettysburg, Pa., October 19, 1946.

His passing was an irreparable loss to his family, his church, and his host of friends. For our comfort and guidance let us seek the counsels of the Most High.

"Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of Mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock; and the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not; for it was founded upon a rock. And everyone that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand; and the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell; and great was the fall of it."

"In humble submission to the will of Almighty God, and in gratitude to Him for the life and service of our Brother, whom we lovingly remember this day, we commit the keeping of his soul to our heavenly Father as unto a faithful creator, looking for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come, through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Let Us Pray

We look unto Thee, our gracious heavenly Father, to thank Thee for the worship of this moment, and for Thy nearness to us. We rejoice that we are never out from under the mercy of our God. We turn to Thee with confidence that Thou dost hear and answer us. With this assurance we pray Thee abundant blessing upon the soul of our Brother. We pray that his wife and daughter may be conscious of the healing grace of Thy Spirit, and feel the support of the everlasting arms underneath. We thank Thee for this Christian Brother who built his House upon the Rock, whose outlook was as wide as the interests of the Church, and whose upreach carried him into vital contact with his God. May we, too, so live that when Thy summons comes to join the innumerable caravan that moves to that mysterious realm, where each shall take his chamber in the silent halls of death; we go not, like the quarry-slave at night, scourged to his dungeon, but, sustained and soothed by an unfaltering trust, approach our grave like one who wraps the drapery of his couch about him, and lies down to pleasant dreams, to awake to the glorious reality of Thy presence over there. All of which we ask in the name of Him who taught us to say when we pray—"Our Father, who art in heaven; hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen."

"The Lord bless thee, and keep thee.

The Lord make His face shine upon thee and be gracious unto thee.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee and give thee peace. Amen."

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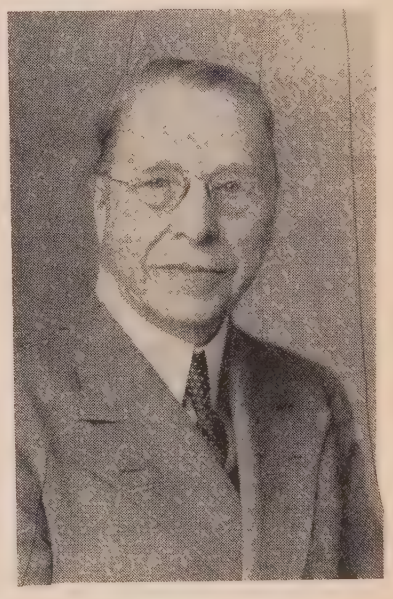

S. H. Holstad

Minneapolis, Minn.

Director, The Lutheran Committee on Scouting

This picture of our efficient and beloved National Scout Director, was taken on his recent 75th birthday. His untiring efforts are largely responsible for the growth of scouting in the U.L.C.A. and the enviable position in which Lutheran Scouting finds itself in relation to the other Protestant churches. We wish for Brother Holstad many more years of fruitful Boy Scout activities.

The Brotherhood In Action

● Departmental Editor, REV. CHARLES F. BROBST, S.T.M.
Telford, Pennsylvania

Brotherhood In Action

Plans for the first meeting were outlined in the February issue of LUTHERAN MEN. The time for the meeting has arrived. The men are present. Everything is in readiness. The following suggestions should be kept in mind as the preliminary organization meeting proceeds.

1. Call the meeting to order at the time set. Beginning late is one of the straws that will help to break the camel's back.

2. If only a small group is present, do not be discouraged. It is better to start small and grow large than to begin with a few and end with a crowd. A small interested group is conducive to frank discussions and to the laying of a firm foundation.

3 After the address, challenging the men to organized lay activity, a group discussion is in order. Let the interested men point out the value of the organized manhood in the parish. The church council who promised at their installation to "promote the general welfare of the congregation," should take an active part in the discussion. If visitors from Brotherhoods of other congregations are present, their experiences would be worth hearing.

4. When the men feel the need for harnessing their interest and talents, let someone make a motion to organize a Brotherhood. Temporary officers should be elected. The necessary committees: program, charter membership, constitution, Lutheran Men, nominating, and fellowship, should then be appointed.

5. Do not drag or prolong the meeting. Keep it moving.

6. Carry out previously made plans for a fine fellowship period after the meeting.

"Preparing for the Charter Night" will be the subject next month. In the meanwhile send your suggestions, questions, etc. about men's work in your congregation.

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Men may burn bibles and bomb churches but they cannot destroy the truth or kill the living Church. Men may blackout a city; they cannot blot out God.—Basil Matthews.

Speaking directly

from his European trip Dr. Paul Empie says:

"Men are bitter, frustrated, vengeful, confused, introverted, and we cannot stand idly by while they drift into the clutches of materialism and Godlessness.

The stakes are so high and important to us and the whole world," he stressed, "that we must literally pour out our resources, both material and spiritual, in carefully chosen ways and at strategic times and places, for a long time to come. Else the Lutheran Church will have engaged in the greatest battle of all her history and lost by default.

Vast sums of money must be on hand and available when needed; we must give it now, in faith, even as our most precious possessions in life are received by faith. Thus we shall keep the faith with our God and with our brethren in this day of decision."

There is only one answer to this question! They must be the result of a plan you select during your earning years.

Tomorrow's dollars have a magic power to overcome today's worries — for with the assurance they will be at your disposal, you can plan to later do the things you most enjoy — to travel, to read the books you have been too busy to look at, to pursue your hobbies, to spend long hours with friends and neighbors.

It's the soundest sort of satisfaction to know that you can retire — and that when you do, there will be an adequate income waiting for you — that will come to you every month as long as you live. A Lutheran Mutual Retirement Income policy will provide such an income at age 60 or 65.

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Lutheran Boy Scouts

● **MR. EARLE W. BADER, Director**
Boy Scout Committee of The Brotherhood of The U.L.C.A.
Headquarters, 62 E. Garrison Street, Bethlehem, Pa.
DR. GEORGE A. EICHLER, Editor

The Story

of the Religious Awards is the title of an interesting article in the January, 1947, issue of Scouting, official organ of the Boy Scouts of America. In spite of the criticism made of this article by some Lutheran Scouters, it is recommended for your reading. It explains how, from the beginning, Scouting has supported religion without teaching it in a formal way. It emphasizes that the teaching of religion is the responsibility of the Church. Scouting is non-sectarian. The Church takes it in and makes it sectarian in accordance with its own beliefs. The Religious Awards Plan is one of the means through which this is accomplished. During the time that a boy works on the requirements for these Religious Awards he is under the personal supervision of his pastor. Thus the Church is sure that a Scout's instruction in matters of religion is directed by a competent person.

The criticism of this otherwise splendid article is that it does not mention the *Pro Deo et Patria* Award specifically. The picture illustrating the Protestant Award was taken in a Lutheran Church but the impression is created that there is only one Protestant Award. There is also no mention of the excellent manual, "Scouting in the Lutheran Church."

Definite assurance has been recived from Boy Scout Headquarter that our *Pro Deo et Patria* Award Program will not be disturbed and that we are to proceed as before.

Let us re-study the whole Scouting Program as discussed in the new manual, "Scouting in the Lutheran Church," and proceed accordingly. This will give assurance that we are on safe ground.

Another World-Wide Organization

The United Nations as an organization for world peace is now in its second year. Another great force in the areas of international friendship and good-will is the Boy Scout Movement.

The Boy Scout Organizations of the world, now numbering 51 nations with a membership of 4,413,139 boys and leaders, have worked together in international harmony since 1920. It has been a definite force for combining patriotism and love of country, at the same time with friendliness for other lands and other peoples.

Boy Scout Week, Feb. 7 to 13, marked 37 years of Scouting in the United States. Its theme "Scouts of the World-Building for Tomorrow" is additional evidence of the growing appreciation of the "U.N." idea.

Incident to the first World Scout Jamboree which saw 18,000 Scouts from all over the world camp together in London in 1920, there was held the first International Scout Conference, a gathering of representatives from many Scout organizations to promote Scouting on an international basis. The first post-war World Jamboree will be held in France during the coming summer.

These international aspects of the Boy Scouts are worth examining. The Scout Oath and Law, with slight variations in different countries, are known the world around. Scouting has promoted international good-will and friendship by emphasizing those points which nations have in common, not their differences. The Scout Program is based upon activities that are fundamental to boyhood the world around. Camping and life in the open attracts all boys, regardless of the language they speak.

The Seventh Scout Law

A Scout is obedient.

He obeys his parents, scoutmaster, patrol leader, and all other duly constituted authority.

Read Exodus 19:5-8. It has been said that obedience to law is liberty. What would happen if nobody obeyed the law. Laws are made by governments to protect life and property. We must obey the laws of God if we are to have a strong character. A Scout should learn this lesson well. There is no better place to begin than to be obedient to parents, Scoutmaster, Patrol Leader and all other constituted authority.

●

Conscientious objectors

are still doing time. Why? More than 1000 of these youg men have not been permitted to go back to their regular vocations. Five thousand more have been released but still suffer civil disabilities. Most of us believe that their position was wrong, but we also believe that conscience should be protected so far as possible in view of the public welfare. They are certainly no menace to our way of life, now that the war is over.

The Speakers Table

Holy Trinity Brotherhood Banquet, Mr. Pleasant, N. C.

Seated—l. to r.—Mrs. A. W. Fisher, President Zeb Trexler, Mrs. Trexler, Mrs. J. W. Link, Mrs. Lester Johnson, Prof. R. Brown McAllister, Mrs. Dermont Swicegood; standing—l. to r.—A. W. Fisher, Lester Johnson, Rev. J. W. Link, pastor of the church, Rev. Dermont Swicegood

Lutheran Men in Bible Study Classes

● **Department Editor: REV. EARL S. RUDISILL, Ph.D., D.D.**
Associate Secretary of the Parish and Church School Board
1228 Spruce Street, Philadelphia, 7, Pa.

Group Thinking

A group can't think any more than a telephone pole. There is no such thing as a collective mind. But the individuals who make up the group can think—if they try hard enough. But even at that "group thinking" is more than a figure of speech. There can be interchange of views and a certain degree of agreement.

The Spirit of the Crowd

A crowd is irrational. It is moved by feelings and emotions rather than by cool thinking. And with even a little excitment outrageous things are likely to be done. Sober thought has gone out the window. The crowd's actions are unpredictable.

Such groups are also unstable. They change quickly from one motive to another, and it may take but a small influence to effect the change. A bit of humor, rightly slanted, has sometimes done it. The aroused crowd does not keep the same purpose very long.

Multitudes are credulous. Some one may shout, or even whisper, some outrageous untruth. It is immediately picked up by the crowd—believed—and without investigation acted upon, perhaps with great injustice to someone.

Crowds are immoral. They'll do things which the individuals in the crowd would not think of doing. Their decisions are dangerous and unreliable.

The spirit of the crowd presents what no one wants in education.

Pooled Information Enriches All

In a group such as a class, a Brotherhood meeting, or a workers' conference the experience of various persons, when thrown into the hopper, may prove helpful to all. The experiences of others supplement our own. Actually the experience of no one person is sufficient to guide him through the intricacies of living. He needs the assistance of lessons learned by other people and passed on to the larger group.

Information gleaned from many sources by a number of persons proves a valuable supplement to that of any individual. Reading, experiments, investigations, conversations, all yield facts which are needed not only by one person, but by many.

Reasoning processes of other people, as well as the results of their reasoning, are usually stimulating to all the members present. The example of one or a few persons may encourage others to use their grey matter a little more aggressively.

In these ways and others "group thinking" does a service to all within reach. Of course, anyone who goes "wool-gathering", or falls asleep, will have to depend on the rest he gets for any benefits, and they won't be educational.

Checking and Selecting

It is a rare thing that any class session passes without some erroneous statement being made by the teacher or by someone else. An alert, expressive class will not let such errors pass, unless they are bits of specialized or obscure knowledge. The whole group is a corrective agent. Reliable conclusions are far more likely to be reached when a whole assembly is acting as watchdog.

A class that is really awake will always be at work selecting the best out of everything that is suggested during the session. The best experience and the highest practical ideals of the group determine what will be selected and what will be rejected. Those things will then be tested in the alembic of further living and doing, and they will yield new exciting ideas for the group.

By studying facts, considering criticisms, weighing possibilities, examining hindrances, and estimating a total situation we may arrive at some pretty sound and workable conclusions. The more people take part in this process and the more actively they throw themselves into it the better will be the experience and the more the conclusions will mean to all.

The Worth of Diversity

There are some people who put a high premium upon uniformity. They would like to regiment people and force them into the same size and pattern of mold. But people are different by heredity and by experience. And those variations work for the good of the whole race. Our civilization will prove its wisdom by providing a maximum of individual freedom for people, for under such conditions a richer culture can develop and larger progress is likely to be achieved.

It may be that in a class or in some other group one person may prove to be the "gadfly," to spur others into thinking and action. In old Athens Socrates confessed to being the "gadfly of society." Every group and every community needs such stimulation. Without it stagnation would be likely to set in.

Other persons may serve as co-ordinators, bringing apparently conflicting ideas or sentiments into one harmonized plan or scheme of action. The "gadfly" cannot do the whole job himself. The other type of personality also is needed. Each performs a valuable function. The harmonizer brings ideas together, emphasizes likenesses, gives less weight to differences, and indicates the common ground and trend of thinking.

Sources

There are here and there a few harebrained critters who believe that discussion will lead to sound conclusions regardless of the information on which it is based. They appear to think that the solution to problems and questions is talk, talk, and more talk. There is no virtue in being wordy. Some tongues keep going like a sewing machine, but you couldn't catch a live idea even if you ran it all through a fine sieve.

We need reliable sources of information, such as a well-selected small library, a good encyclopedia, or a public library. Sound periodicals will help. Well-informed persons can also lend a hand. For an idividual or a group to fly in the face of fact will yield results like those of the farmer who planted pumpkin seeds and prayed for a field of corn.

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"I told her that each hour spent with her was like a pearl to me."

"And did that impress her?"

"No. She told me to quit stringing her."—Watchword.

Topic of the Month

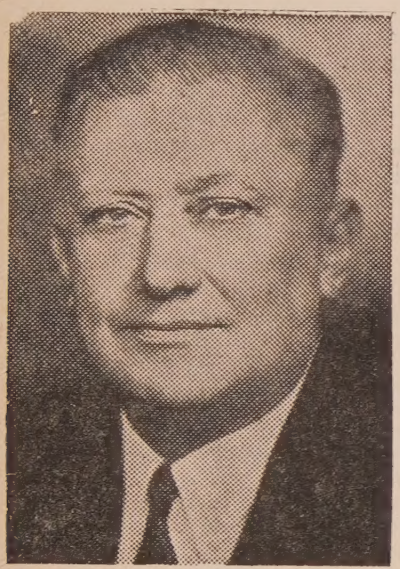
● Department Editor. REV. ARTHUR H. GETZ
Secretary of the Parish and Church School Board
1228 Spruce Street, Philadelphia, 7, Pa.

Caring for Our Own

Topic for April, 1947

By the Rev. Ralph H. Long, D.D.

Editorial Committee: Arthur H. Getz, Chairman; A. E. Iverson; C. Oscar Leonardson.



REV. DR. RALPH H. LONG

Dr. Ralph H. Long is recognized as one of the outstanding church leaders in the United States. Through his contacts with world Lutheran leaders he is taking a leading part in European reconstruction problems. As executive director of the National Lutheran Council since 1930 he has wielded a great influence in the programs of the various agencies which are bringing the Lutheran church bodies in America into closer co-operation and better understanding.

As a member of the executive committee of the Lutheran World Convention, and as secretary-treasurer of the American Section of that Convention, Dr. Long is in constant contact with the elected representatives of more than 60 million Lutherans throughout the world. He has been responsible in a large part for the financial support which the Lutheran people in the United States have been able to offer the war-orphaned foreign mission fields of European missionary societies and boards. Currently his efforts have been centered on Lutheran World Action, whose 1946-47 goal of 10 million dollars is to be used primarily for foreign relief and reconstruction.

Dr. Long was born on a farm near Loudonville, Ohio, in 1882; was educated at Capital University and Theological Seminary, Columbus, Ohio; was ordained in 1909 by the Joint Synod of Ohio; served parishes at Warren, Ohio, Coraopolis, Pa., and Pittsburgh, Pa.; served as camp pastor at Camp Meade, Md., in 1918; and was called in 1927 by the Joint Synod of Ohio as Stewardship Secretary. In 1930 Dr. Long became executive director of the National Lutheran Council. Capital University conferred the degree of Doctor of Divinity upon him in 1931.

AIM: To lead the men of the church to re-examine the great needs confronting large sections of the Lutheran Church; to help them to appreciate the united efforts made to meet those needs through the National Lutheran Council and the Lutheran World Convention; and to enlist members of the Brotherhood to support and promote the efforts which will lead to the proper assistance and strengthening of those throughout the world who are members of our household of faith.

NOTE: The topic material which follows had to be prepared many months before it will be used by Brotherhoods. It will therefore be important to supplement this material with more recent information. Generous use should be made of the discussion leaders suggested at the March meeting under the heading, "Assignments for Committees."

Worship

Hymn, "Hasten, Lord, the Glorious Time"—No. 227 C.S.B., or No. 157 P.S.H.
Scripture: Matthew 21:28-41
Free Prayer
Hymn, "Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life"—No. 235 C.S.B., or No. 169 P.S.H.

The Topic

It is almost universally recognized that it is man's responsibility to care for his own. God has written it into his Word as a Christan duty. In Galatians 6:10 we read: "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."

That passage can be interpreted in a number of ways. It certainly means that members of a congregation ought to help each other where it is necessary. It also grows into an ever widening circle to include all the members of our church body, and all the members of the Lutheran faith around the world. As a matter of fact it does not even stop there, but takes in all men, even our enemies. One of the singular and satisfying features of the Christian faith is that it urges love to all men, even those who are not our friends.

We are also told: "But whoso hath this world's goods, an seeth his brother have need and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?" (I John 3:17). If this means anything it means that we cannot be Christians and close our hearts and hands to the needs of our brethren. Caring for our own is a Christian duty.

Many Brothers in Need

Reliable reports current in the summer of 1945 stated that 500,000,000 people in Europe and the Far East were facing starvation. This is one-fourth of the world's population. Obviously many of them were Christians, and large numbers of them were Lutherans. We know that millions of our brethren faced a black, hopeless future. Desperate economic conditions still exist in practically all the European countries where the majority of Lutherans of the world live. They lack the essentials of life such as food, clothing, drugs, shelter, and heat. Millions of them will die of disease, induced by malnutrition and exposure, unless speedy help is given them.

More than that, they are desperately in need of spiritual encouragement to face the future which lies before them. They need that courage and strength which can only be derived from the promises of God. One of the most urgent appeals coming to us is to supply them with religious literature, such as Bibles, prayer books, hymnals, and catechisms. In their desperation they have been driven to seek courage and comfort in the promises of God.

They also need houses of worship, so they can assemble for public services. Thousands of churches have been destroyed, and materials are

not available to repair churches which can be restored. If we believe that the peace and security of the world depends largely on the inner attitude and character of men's hearts, then certainly there can be no doubt that the service of the church is fundamentally necessary. The present situation affords a glorious opportunity for Christianity to serve the best interests of man both with respect to his physical and spiritual being.

There are literally hundreds of thousands of our brethren in Europe who are homeless and helpless. They are the sick and crippled, the orphans and widows, the dislocated and dispossessed, the wounded and the wayfaring—all a result of the war. Their chief hope is in the Christian agencies and institutions of mercy, of which there are many wherever the Lutheran Church is found. These charitable institutions are in great need of assistance because of the scarcity of material supplies and because there are so many more persons to care for now than in normal times.

Where Are They?

Lutherans are found in large numbers in Finland, Norway, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Rumania, Jugoslavia, Austria, Germany, Holland, and France. There are also thousands of them in Western Europe —people who fled from the Baltic states, Esthonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. In all these countries there is a crying need for material relief and much spiritual aid as religious literature, houses of worship, and support of charitable institutions. The Lutherans in Sweden and Denmark are assisting in this relief work.

Lutheran World Action

The eight Lutheran bodies who are participating in the National Lutheran Council are also affiliated in the American Section of the Lutheran World Convention. Unitedly and cooperatively they are engaged in a great program of relief and rehabilitation. During 1946 and 1947 a fund of $10,000,000 is being sought with which to carry out this program. There has been a tremendous interest on the part of all in this effort. By the summer of 1946 some congregations had reported raising three times their quota. These are splendid examples which should encourage all to do their utmost.

As a matter of fact, ten million dollars is far too little to meet the crying need that exists. It must be remembered that not all money received can be used for relief and rehabilitation. Out of the amount received must come funds to carry on the remaining work for service men and women, the care of orphaned missions, the work in veterans' housing areas, and a number of smaller war emergency projects. That will leave only $6,950,000 for the great work of relief and rehabilitation.

Lutheran World Relief, Inc.

In order to send material aid from this country it was necessary to organize a special agency, Lutheran World Relief, Inc., to comply with the governmental regulations controlling such activities. Through this channel great quantities of clothing and food have been collected and sent to our brethren in the war devastated countries. Such material aid is distributed by a special reconstruction committee set up by the churches in the respective countries. In the case of Germany a representative from America supervises the distribution in each zone of occupation to which aid is sent.

Actual Accomplishments

Religious Literature. $100,000 was contributed to the American Bible Society early in 1945 in order that Bibles might be provided for the countries of Europe and Japan. Large purchases of paper were made in Sweden for printing religious books in Germany. Other printings of religious books were made in Switzerland. Theological books were also purchased in the United States for Denmark. Great quantities of religious literature have been provided for prisoners of war.

Provisional Churches. Many former army barracks were purchased from the Swiss army for temporary churches in France, Germany, and Czechoslovakia. Other barracks were purchased and equipped in Sweden, for Finland and Norway.

Support of Churches and Institutions. Grants have been made to Lutherans in France, Holland, Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Austria, Italy, Finland, and Norway. In the case of Finland and Norway it has been decided to allocate one million dollars of the total to each of these countries. Allocations to other countries cannot be made until more information is available.

Now is the time for Christians everywhere to stand up for the principles of Jesus Christ with respect to international and interpersonal relationships. There will be no lasting peace or security if these principles are left out in favor of power politics and political opportunism. The principles of Christian brotherhood must have the widest possible application.

By caring for our own we also help to preserve the church. The Lutheran Churches of Europe have passed through a terrific struggle, as a result of which they have been weakened. Now they face tremendous tasks which will require the utmost devotion and courage. When we help them we help to make it possible for them to come off victorious. The struggle goes on against principalities and powers. Pagan and atheistic forces are making a powerful bid for Europe's soul. The terrible situation which exists provides fertile soil for the promotion of paganism and atheism unless the Christians are empowered to meet the issue. These are serious days for the Lutheran Church. Very much depends on how faithfully and effectively we aid our brethren in this critical time.

What Brotherhoods Can Do

1. They can give moral approval and active assistance to the local congregation in its effort to raise funds for Lutheran World Action. Every congregation ought to exceed its quota, because the need is so great.

2. Continue to gather clothing and food supplies for Europe.

3. Offer to pay for a barrack-church, at a cost of $5,000. Some individuals have already done so. Such a project might well be considered by some Brotherhoods.

4. Take up a special project. There are various projects which can be offered. For information write to Lutheran World Convention. 231 Madison Avenue, New York 16, New York.

5. Pray and work that your church may not fail to care for its own. The Lutheran Churches of Europe are fighting for their lives. We must think and act in terms of the whole church.

Topics for Discussion

1. What national relief agencies are now at work in Europe and Asia? Which is our own church agency?

2. What are the outstanding material needs of our Lutheran brethren at present? In which countries are these needs most pronounced?

3. What proportion of funds received should be spent for physical relief and what proportion for spiritual relief?

4. What has thus far been accomplished by Lutheran World Action?

5. What service is being rendered by Lutheran World Relief, Inc.? How can Brotherhood men participate in this work?

7. Who are the Lutheran leaders of America who are at present representing our church in Europe? What is the task of each?

8. What are the real issues at stake in the present world situation?

9. How long should the church continue its program of relief, and how much money should be raised in the future?

10. What can members of our Brotherhood do, individually and collectively, to make a larger contribution toward "caring for our own"?

Assignment of the Project for May Meeting

Cf. the article, "A Debate," immediately following.

Closing Worship

Hymn, "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"—
No. 135 C.S.B., or No. 189 P.S.H.
Prayer, including the Lord's Prayer
Benediction
BUSINESS
FELLOWSHIP AND REFRESHMENTS

A DEBATE

Project for the May Meeting

The May meeting can easily be arranged in the form of a debate, if members of the Brotherhood so desire. If this plan is to be followed the issue may be stated thus: Resolved—that family life today is more definitely Christian than in the previous generation.

In order that the May meeting may be fruitful the chairman should appoint three members of the Brotherhood to present the positive side and three members to present the negative side. Each speaker should be allowed three minutes for his presentation. Three minutes additional should be allowed for the rebuttal. At the close of the debate, and after the decision has been rendered, the chairman should take a few minutes to speak on "What We Brotherhood men can do to develop Christian family life." These remarks should, so far as possible, be based upon facts presented by both the affirmative and negative sides of the debating team. Facts for the debate may be gathered from many sources, including the topic material that will be provided for the May meeting.

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Food and Drugs. Through our representative in Geneva, Dr. S. C. Michelfelder, large purchases of food and drugs have been made in Switzerland and Sweden for relief in Central Europe. Dr. Michelfelder also purchased large stocks of surplus army commodities. A donation of $25,000 was made to the American Friends for purchase of food and drugs for war orphans in Finland. Fifty thousand dollars was contributed to the Church Committee for Relief in Asia. By the time this topic is discussed there will be much more to report. and more recent information should be gathered from such sources as church periodicals and the Lutheran Church Convention ofice.

Personal Contacts. Since July 1945 we have had Dr. S. C. Michelfelder, Toledo Ohio, in Geneva to represent our interests. He has worked in close cooperation with the Reconstruction Department of the World Council of Churches. In fact he organized its Material Aid Division, and continues to act as chairman of this activity. Early in 1946 Dr. Herman Keiter went to Finland in a double capacity, representing the American Friends Service Committee and our Lutheran Church. Dr. Clifford Ansgar Nelson, of St. Paul, Minn., went to Europe

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